

CLAIMS

1.

A telecommunications mast installation comprising a mast supporting a telecommunications antenna and a foundation structure supporting the mast, the foundation structure being in the form of an enclosed chamber situated at least partially underground and defining an internal space which is accessible to personnel and which accommodates electronic equipment associated with operation of the antenna.

2.

An installation according to claim 1 wherein the chamber is fully underground.

3.

An installation according to either one of the preceding claims wherein the mast has a foot at its lower end which is supported on a base of the chamber, the base acting as a structural foundation for the mast.

4.

An installation according to claim 3 wherein the foot of the mast is seated on a seat in or on the base, the seat restraining lateral movements of the foot of the mast at the base.

5.

An installation according to claim 4 wherein the chamber includes lateral support means to restrain lateral movements of the mast at a position above the base.

6

An installation according to claim 5 wherein the chamber has a roof with an opening therein through which the mast passes.

7.

An installation according to claim 6 comprising a sleeve about a lower end of the mast, the sleeve being received by the seat and passing through the opening in the roof.

8.

An installation according to either one of claims 1 or 2 wherein the mast has a foot at its lower end which is connected rigidly to a roof of the chamber.

9.

An installation according to any one of the preceding claims and comprising ventilation or air conditioning means for the interior of the chamber.

10.

An installation according to claim 9 comprising ventilation or air conditioning means housed in a cubicle mounted on a roof of the chamber above ground level and communicating with the interior of the chamber.

11.

An installation according to claim 9 wherein the ventilation means comprises a ventilation circuit which includes an air intake on the mast above ground, an air exhaust at an elevated position on the mast, air intake ducting leading from the intake to the interior of the chamber and air exhaust ducting leading from the interior of the chamber to the air exhaust.

12.

An installation according to claim 11 wherein the air exhaust is located towards the top of the mast and includes an air extractor.

13.

An installation according to either one of claims 11 or 12 wherein the mast is a hollow monopole mast, the air intake is an opening in a wall of the mast and the air intake and air exhaust ducting is concealed in the interior of the mast.

14.

An installation according to any one of the preceding claims comprising a personnel entrance cubicle on a roof of the chamber above ground and a personnel access passage leading from the entrance cubicle to the interior of the chamber.

15.

An installation according to any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein the mast is a hollow monopole mast which extends into the chamber and which has personnel access openings into the mast above ground and within the chamber, the personnel access openings and the interior of the mast providing a personnel access passage to the chamber.

16.

An installation according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the chamber is of concrete.

17.

An installation according to claim 16 wherein the chamber is at least partially of precast concrete construction.

18.

An installation according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the mast carries one or more transverse, electric light-supporting arms each at an elevated position, electrical supply cables for the or each arm extending along the mast.

19.

An installation according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the chamber is located underground in an area alongside a road or between opposing lanes of a road.

20.

An installation substantially as herein described with reference to Figures 1 and 2 or Figures 3 and 4 of the accompanying drawings.